

A New Life of Thomas Jefferson.

II.

Very different were the prepossessions, the beliefs and aims of Thomas Jefferson. Quick-witted, liberal, tolerant, he was not a fanatic; his convictions and strongly emotional, stung at heart, too, by the thought that the new French revolution, which had so stirred his sympathy, should be viewed by leading minds at home through the cold medium of British misapprehension. He feared the Convention might take the risk of writing down the men who surrounded the first President and bringing patriotism to despair for their eventual discomfiture. Beginning in his private letters to warn his friends against "a sect among us who would sacrifice Liberty to Constitution in perfect," he presently wrote of Hamilton and ex-President Adams as leaders of a British clique whose efforts, more or less secret, were to draw America toward "that half-way house" of monarchy. "British faction" was a phrase which galloped. Hamilton, Knox, Alexander Morris, and certain Eastern Federalists were the men chiefly impaled by it, and Jefferson in return was widely denounced as them as a false generalizer, a worshipper of France, a philosopher of crude abstractions, a hypocrite, a flatterer of the people, a plagiarist. The word "sect" went so far as to strike him as "semi-manic."

The political party which Jefferson founded was styled by him "Republican," and to that

quished before the apolls. At midnight of March 3, 1801, Marshall, the Federalist Secretary of State, was taken with his illness, making it impossible for him to appear at the ceremony. On March 4, ex-President Adams hastened in his carriage from the forest, encumbered with capital, beginning his journey to Massachusetts on a day and at an hour which precluded a decorous attendance at the inauguration of Jefferson. He was, however, present, and John Schouler notes that alone of later Presidents, he, son, the second Adams, who inherited his bitterness of temper, refused to be present at the induction of a successful opponent.

IV.

In the author's concluding chapter, the chief is duly recognized that Jefferson remains a creative force in American life, one of the great makers of America. As to the merit of his political philosophy, the test applied by Parton is approved: "If Jefferson was wrong, America is wrong; if America is right, Jefferson is right." The author is not alone in this view; those of the nineteenth century; and in the nineteenth century's experiment with democracy must lie his vindication or his condemnation. While the most distinguished of his contemporaries were for repressing popular tendencies, he insisted upon giving them free play and that he attained it is due principally to him. It has come to pass that Jefferson's individual character has powerfully

Obviously, the fundamental principles of both the communal meetings and of the Landcomrades are the following: First, that every citizen shall have the right to propose a measure useful to his fellow citizens; this right is not to be exercised in a hasty, impulsive manner, but the majority shall actually enact a law voting the acceptance or the rejection of any measure.

The Constitution of the Swiss Confederation established in 1848, provided for its own revision by popular initiative and by a referendum. If 50,000 voters petition for a revision or the Federal Assembly, which is composed of members of the two Houses of the Swiss Confederation, the question is submitted to the whole body of electors. If the response is in the affirmative, the Council of States (Senate) and the National Council (House of Representatives) are both dissolved. An initiative is then submitted to the electors upon the Congress, fresh from the polls, makes the revision, and submits the revised Constitution to the country. To stand, it must be accepted not only by a majority of the voters but by a majority of the twenty-two cantons.

When the Swiss Federal Constitution was revised in 1874, the application of the referendum was extended from constitutional amendments to ordinary legislation. The form of the principle adopted is the optional. The demand for the referendum must be made by thirty thousand citizens, or by eight cantons and within ninety days of the law's passage. It is cooperative with respect either to a statute passed by the Federal Assembly or to a decree of the Executive power. Of one hundred and forty-nine federal laws,

VII.

Now let us look at the facts collected in reference to the application of the constitution in American States, cities, and counties. The data relating to the advance of direct taxation in State government were lately published in the "Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science." It appears that amendments of State Constitutions must

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BIGGEST DIAMOND IN THE WORLD

Found by a Kaffir in Africa, and Said to be Worth Half a Million Sterling

From the Birmingham Post.

Our Jagermeister (correspondent) writes: You may have noticed by cable that the largest diamond ever found in Africa, and the largest in the world, is being sent by this post a perfect parcel of Farls model of the diamond, which was found by a Kaffir in the mountains of South Africa, Company's mines. It is the most perfect large diamond ever seen. Its weight is 310 carats in color, and it is of the most perfect shape. It has one black spot in it, which, however, is not visible when the diamond is set. Of course, cannot be taken out of it. Its value of £500,000 were offered for it now, or even double that, and it would not be accepted. It is even declared that it is worth £1,000,000. I was struck by a Kaffir who was working in the mine, and he was telling me that he had seen this case, was talking to me about it, and he saw something shiny, and he put his hand into his pocket, and he took out a diamond, and he picked up the immense diamond and put it in his pocket. Afterward, in the company, he handed it over to the manager, for which he has been given £100, a horse, saddle and bridle, and has gone home in no doubt perfect satisfaction. I am sure that this diamond is that one gentleman, or some gentlemen. I don't know which were under contract to buy all stones, but I don't think it is worth more than £100,000. This contract terminated on the 1st of June, and this stone was almost, if not quite, the last of the contract.

The model shows that the stone is in the form of a sloping cone flattened on two sides and having a flat top. It is almost perfectly round, and it appears to have been cut. Its height is about 1 1/2 inches, and its width about 1 1/2 inches. The diamond is of the most perfect shape.